

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01

SP-02 FEAЕ-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

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O R 131715Z JAN 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1021

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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H PASS CODEL

PASS STR FOR INFO

PASS AGRIC AND COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MTN ETRD

SUBJECT: TROPICAL PRODUCTS: EC AND CANADIAN OFFERS

REF: MTN GENEVA 184

1. TRAN, EC DEL TO UNCTAD COMMITTEE ON PREFERENCES,
REQUESTED MEETING TO BRIEF USDEL ON EC'S TROPICAL PRODUCT
OFFER. TRAN INDICATED THAT INFORMATION WAS SENSITIVE
GIVEN EC PROCEDURES AND REQUESTED THAT IT NOT BE DISCUSSED
WITH EC GENEVA REPS. HE NOTED THAT 113 COMMITTEE HAD HAD
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PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON COMMISSION-PROPOSED OFFER

AND THAT IT WOULD MEET AGAIN ON JAN 16.

2. MFN OFFERS: 900,000 OUT OF 1.2 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT FOR MFN CONCESSIONS ARE COVERED BY TOW PRODUCTS -- COFFEE AND COCOA BEANS. COMMISSION HAS RECOMMENDED THAT TARIFF ON COFFEE BE REDUCED FROM 7 PCT TO 5 PCT AND TARIFF ON COCOA BEANS FROM 4 PCT TO 2 PCT. TWENTY-FIVE OTHER ITEMS (NOT IDENTIFIED BY TRAN) WORTH 300,000 UNITS OF ACCOUNT WILL BE REDUCED ON AN MFN BASIS, MOST OF THESE BY CONSOLIDATION OF CURRENT DUTY SUSPENSIONS.

3. GSP: TRAN INDICATED THAT THE EC PLANS TO ADD 58 NEW ITEMS BY SELECTING ITEMS ON WHICH MSA'S SUCH AS INDIA AND SRI LANKA WOULD BENEFIT. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PROPOSED AMENDMENT HOWEVER IS ON TOBACCO ITEMS WHICH WILL BE TREATED AS FOLLOWS: A GSP DUTY OF 8 PCT WITH NO QUOTA IS PROPOSED FOR 24.01A; A GSP DUTY 8 PCT AND QUOTA OF 50,000 TONS IS PROPOSED FOR 24.01B (THE MAXIMUM SPECIFIC DUTY IS TO BE RAISED). TRAN REQUESTED THAT OFFERS ON TOBACCO BE UNDERSTOOD IN CONTEXT OF BURDEN SHARING AND EC ATTEMPT TO BE FORTHCOMING TO MSA'S.

4. TRAN INDICATED THAT ULTIMATE EC OFFER WAS DEPENDENT ON A NUMBER OF THINGS INCLUDING SIZE OF THE U.S. OFFER. HE INDICATED "THAT IF THE U.S. OFFER WERE MORE LIMITED THE EC WOULD LOWER ITS OFFER." TRAN INDICATED COMMISSIONS PROPOSED OFFER ALSO COVERED EXCISE AND INTERNAL TAXES APPLIED BY GERMANY (COFFEE) AND ITALY (BANANAS); TRAN ANTICIPATED THAT GERMAN AND ITALIAN RESERVATIONS ON THIS WOULD BE OFFSET BY FRANCE'S DESIRE TO LIMIT TARIFF CUTS. TRAN INDICATED BUT DID NOT SPECIFY THAT THE OFFER WOULD INCLUDE THE ENLARGEMENT OR ELIMINATION OF SOME QUOTA RESTRICTIONS. CULBERT

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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